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REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks made herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1 and 3-8 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 3-8 are currently amended, without prejudice.

No new matter is added.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, and the remarks that follow as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes and remarks are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Support for the amended recitations in the claims is found throughout the specification.

II. 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH, REJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 3-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The amendments to the claims render the rejection moot.

Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejections are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration of the claims is earnestly solicited. If, however, there is still an outstanding issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for its prompt attention.

Respectfully submitted, FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

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